



NEWS RELEASE

Department of Human Services
400 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37219-1602

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2002

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Lisa Elam (615) 313-5652

Families First Caseload Reduction Report Available for Viewing

NASHVILLE - The Tennessee Department of Human Services (DHS) Families First Caseload Reduction Report will be on display during a public comment period at each of the agency's district offices. The report can also be viewed on the Department's web site at <http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/tanf-caseload.pdf>

The public comment period will run through Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2002.

Families First is Tennessee's welfare reform plan which replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program in September of 1996. The Caseload Reduction Report is an optional report which states submit to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The report is used to determine the amount of credit a state may receive for its cash assistance caseload. **The credit is then used to reduce the work participation rate that a state is required to meet.**

Under the Welfare Reform Act of 1996, each state must examine eligibility changes made since Federal Fiscal Year 1995 and estimate positive and negative effects of those changes on the state's on caseload. States do not receive credit for negative eligibility changes.

District DHS offices are open from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Listed below are addresses of the offices that will have a copy of the report for public viewing.

170 North Main Street
Memphis, TN 38103
Linda Williams, District Administrator

531 Henley Street, Suite 210
Knoxville, TN 37902-2810
Dave Avans, District Administrator

311 E. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Chattanooga, TN 37403-4198
Susan Kirk, District Administrator

225 Martin Luther King Blvd., Room 202B
Jackson, TN 38301-6987
Onslow Davis, District Administrator

1000 2nd Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37201
Willie Caruth, District Administrator

1616 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37203
Lionel Senseney, District Administrator

Comments should be made in writing and received by close of business Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2002, at the following address:

Tennessee Department of Human Services
Attention: Caseload Reduction Report
Lisa Elam, Families First Policy
Citizens Plaza Building, 12th Floor
400 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37248